

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A line support, comprising:
a first support member having an elongate body;
a second support member having an elongate body, the first and second support members secured to one another at a proximal end of the line support and positioned such that support is provided by a biasing force at a distal end of the line support wherein the first and second support members are resilient, and wherein the first and second support members are in close proximity to one another substantially along their lengths when the first and the second support members are unoccupied, wherein the second support member further comprises at least two alignment channels positioned at a distal end of the second support member and extending beyond the second support member; and
a sliding retainer selectively positionable about the first and second support members and configured such that the biasing force is selectively adjustable.
2. (Original) The line support of claim 1, further comprising at least one protrusion provided at a distal end of at least one of the first and second support members and capable of increasing grip of the biasing force.
3. (Original) The line support of claim 1, wherein the second support member further comprises at least one stirrup portion positioned at a distal end of the second support member and extending laterally outward from the second support member and forming a loop.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The line support of claim 1;~~ A line support,
comprising:
a first support member having an elongate body;
a second support member having an elongate body, the first and second
support members secured to one another at a proximal end of the line support and
positioned such that support is provided by a biasing force at a distal end of the line
support wherein the first and second support members are resilient, and wherein the
first and second support members are in close proximity to one another substantially
along their lengths when the first and the second support members are unoccupied;
and

a sliding retainer selectively positionable about the first and second support
members and configured such that the biasing force is selectively adjustable,
wherein the sliding retainer has a threaded bore therethrough for engagement with a
securing mechanism that engages at least one of the first and second support
members and is capable of retaining the sliding retainer in a selected position.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The line support of claim 1;~~ A line support,
comprising:
a first support member having an elongate body;
a second support member having an elongate body, the first and second
support members secured to one another at a proximal end of the line support and
positioned such that support is provided by a biasing force at a distal end of the line
support wherein the first and second support members are resilient, and wherein the
first and second support members are in close proximity to one another substantially
along their lengths when the first and the second support members are unoccupied;
and

a sliding retainer selectively positionable about the first and second support
members and configured such that the biasing force is selectively adjustable,
wherein the sliding retainer has teeth members for engagement with at least one of

the first and second support members and wherein the sliding retainer is releasably biased in a selectable retained position.

7. (Original) The line support of claim 6, wherein at least one of the first and second support members has a rigid surface for engagement with the teeth members of the sliding retainer.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The line support of claim 1,~~ A line support, comprising:

a first support member having an elongate body;

a second support member having an elongate body, the first and second support members secured to one another at a proximal end of the line support and positioned such that support is provided by a biasing force at a distal end of the line support wherein the first and second support members are resilient, and wherein the first and second support members are in close proximity to one another substantially along their lengths when the first and the second support members are unoccupied; and

a sliding retainer selectively positionable about the first and second support members and configured such that the biasing force is selectively adjustable, wherein the first support member further comprises a handle located at a distal end of the first support member wherein the handle is configured to assist in opposing the biasing force when pulled.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The line support of claim 1,~~ A line support, comprising:

a first support member having an elongate body;

a second support member having an elongate body, the first and second support members secured to one another at a proximal end of the line support and positioned such that support is provided by a biasing force at a distal end of the line support wherein the first and second support members are resilient, and wherein the first and second support members are in close proximity to one another substantially

along their lengths when the first and the second support members are unoccupied;
and

a sliding retainer selectively positionable about the first and second support members and configured such that the biasing force is selectively adjustable,
wherein at least one sliding retainer stop is provided and positioned to prevent the sliding retainer from being maneuvered past the at least one sliding retainer stop.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The line support of claim 1,~~ A line support,
comprising:

a first support member having an elongate body;

a second support member having an elongate body, the first and second support members secured to one another at a proximal end of the line support and positioned such that support is provided by a biasing force at a distal end of the line support wherein the first and second support members are resilient, and wherein the first and second support members are in close proximity to one another substantially along their lengths when the first and the second support members are unoccupied;
and

a sliding retainer selectively positionable about the first and second support members and configured such that the biasing force is selectively adjustable,
wherein at least one of the first and second support members provide indicators that relate to the amount of biasing force provided for a given position of the sliding retainer.

11. (Original) The line support of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second support members has an attachment mechanism capable of attaching the line support to a securing structure.

Claims 12-20 (Canceled)

21. (New) The line support of claim 1, wherein said first and second support members form a unitary body at said proximal end of the line support and separate portions at said distal end of the line support.